

How to

Hold a Food Drive



3419 SW Morgan Street, Seattle, WA 98126

206-932-9023

www.westseattlefoodbank.org

Mission

West Seattle Food Bank is committed to providing food security and community connections to our neighbors in need.

Food Drives are Important

- Almost 9000 individuals use the services of the West Seattle Food Bank at least once yearly.
- Each week 170 bags of food are delivered to homebound elderly or disabled.
- We distributed more than 1.3 million pounds of food last year.
- 25% of our clients receive most of their groceries from us
- 59% of our clients have an annual income less than \$12,000
- 38% are children under 18
- 12% are seniors
- Donations of food from individuals and organized food drives play a vital role. More than 85% of the food we distribute is donated.
- We welcome donations of all non-perishable, canned and packaged foods.

How to Get Started

These ideas are offered to help individuals, businesses or clubs plan for a successful food drive.

- Get other people committed to the drive: co-workers, department and senior managers, teachers, friends, relatives and neighbors.
- Name your drive -give your drive a sense of fun or importance (for example: "Cans at Christmas," "Tons of Tuna," "No Hungry Neighbors,")
- Set a goal for how much food you want to collect - pounds, bags, boxes, number of cans, or the value of the food.
- Consider your collection points-pick places that are easy for people to find, ask to display a donation container in different departments, offices, or area retailers.
- Let us know of your plans and we may be able to supply you with information, donation wish lists and bins.

PROMOTE THE DRIVE:

- Schedule a fun kick-off event and distribute our wish list.
- Send information about the food drive with your party, wedding, etc. invitation.
- Hang posters or flyers where people are most likely to see them.
- Post on your social media, contact family, neighbors, area businesses, etc. asking for their participation
- Educate your group about the West Seattle Food Bank and our mission to end hunger in our community. (Call us at 206-932-9023 for brochures, recent statistics and other important information).
- Decorate your food drive containers.
- Provide each person with a bag to fill with food.
- Remind people when the end of the food drive is near.

WHEN IT'S DONE:

- Deliver food to the Food Bank or call us for help
- We are here to accept donated food Monday-Friday 9 am to 3pm. The best time for easy access to our parking garage and loading dock are Mondays and Fridays.

P Also don't forget to collect receipts from West Seattle Thriftway. The West Seattle Food Bank gets 1% of all collected receipts!